

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
April 8, 2016

Dates to Remember

April 11, 2016 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting
April 12, 2016 – Hendry-Glades Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
April 14, 2016 – City Commission Workshop
April 18, 2016 – City Commission Meeting
April 21, 2016 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:

- We have several locations, which have been vacant for a year or more, getting ready to have inspections and get their Business Tax Receipts:
 - Ruby's Bakery at 720 East Sugarland Hwy.
 - Leal Tire Repair at 340 South WC Owen Avenue
 - La Bodequita at 132 South WC Owen Avenue
 - Call center at 750 East Sagamore Avenue
 - A Group Home for 6 special needs individuals at 607 West Obispo Avenue

Each is similar to the previous businesses.

In addition, there are two new businesses, Young Ladies of Tomorrow, opening at 402A East Sugarland Hwy., formally Lyons Printing. This will be a boutique featuring belts, shapewear and purses, and another boutique, Pink Pearls Couture, featuring fashion & accessories to be located at 935 West Sugarland Hwy.;

- We have issued a site work permit for the ground to be prepared for another single-family residence to be located at 774 East Del Monte. This home will be the ninth new SFR to be permitted in the last 12 months. We also permitted the 14 buildings, 50 unit Greentree West apartments;
- The Fire Department participated in the Easter Egg Hunt held at Harlem Community Park on Saturday, March 26th. Fire fighters Waddell & Rangel enjoyed the morning festivities with very enthusiastic kids. They explained fire safety and provided a tour of Engine 12.

Debbie McNeil – Community Improvement Division reports:

- I have responded to various citizens' complaints including but not all inclusive public nuisance buildings, lawn maintenance including hedge height, signage, business tax receipt, and trash management.
- Code enforcement fines/liens data has been consolidated into one spreadsheet with foreclosure recommendations for Mr. Schoech to review with staff. A brief review with

Mr. Schoech on the list of foreclosures and recommendations was held this week. Talks with Finance are ongoing to combine our data with theirs. A full picture of satisfied code enforcement liens and outstanding code enforcement liens has been produced and provided to staff.

- Operation Show Your Numbers is in full force and will continue throughout the City until compliance of commercial and residential structures is achieved. Thank you to Ricardo Martinez and the utilities crew who have been very helpful with this operation thus far.
- Our next scheduled Magistrate Hearing is on June 8, 2016 at 10:00 AM in the City Commission Chambers.
- 14 new code cases were generated, 8 code cases resolved, 1 referred out and 5 rental inspections completed.

Code Review:

“APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS”

...AND HIGH GRASS AND WEEDS

- **Sec. 18-313. - Duties and responsibilities of owner and/or occupant of lot, parcel, or tract.**

(a) General maintenance of landscaping and vegetation.

(1) Every owner and/or occupant of property within the city shall be required to maintain all yard areas which are covered by grass, ground cover, shrubs, vines, hedges, trees, or palms; and/or nonliving durable material commonly used in landscaping such as rocks, pebbles, or decorative mulch.

(2) The owner and/or occupant of all property within the city shall maintain such property free of all debris, deteriorated building materials, rubbish, or any other material which by reason of height, proximity to neighboring structures, physical condition, or peculiar characteristics might cause damage to life or property within the surrounding area.

(3) All grass areas and lawns shall be properly maintained and kept free of dead plants, refuse, and debris.

(4) The owner and/or occupant of improved property within the city shall maintain all grass and weeds at a height of less than eight inches.

(5) The owner of unimproved property within the city shall maintain all grass and weeds at a height of less than 12 inches.

(6) The creation of other nuisances or safety hazards, such as vegetation of any sort being allowed to grow in or upon improved streets, gutters, or sidewalks; standing pools of water; holes; excavation; windblown soil or erosion caused by soil left exposed without landscaping, is prohibited.

(b) Trash container areas and trash management.

(1) All dumpsters, trash cans, and trash container areas shall be maintained in a manner which prevents the accumulation of trash, debris, garbage, refuse, and litter in the vicinity of the receptacle and shall prevent such materials from being blown by the wind to other portions of the site, streets and alleys, and other properties. All containers shall be maintained in good repair in a clean and sanitary condition so as not to create an offensive odor, health hazard, or other nuisance, and shall have the lids closed at all times except when depositing refuse. All garbage shall be deposited in dumpsters, cans, or containers.

(2) No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited on any land, public area, street, alley, vacant lot or unoccupied lot, or any watercourse, canal, or ditch within the city any garbage, trash, waste materials, or other noxious, malodorous or offensive material.

(3) No owner of private property, or his agent, shall permit or allow any maintaining of dead, fatally diseased or damaged trees, shrubs or branches, or parts thereof, within the city. The city shall have the authority to order removal of any such trees, shrubs, or parts thereof pursuant to the terms of this division.

(4) The owner of private property or his agent shall remove trees, branches, shrubs, or parts thereof which overhang or interfere with public sidewalks or rights-of-way, including clear visibility triangles in accordance with provisions set forth in [section 102-82](#). Such owners shall also remove trees or shrubs or parts thereof which obstruct public view of traffic or public safety signs located within public rights-of-way.

If you have any questions you may contact the Community Improvement Division at 141 Central Avenue, Clewiston Utilities Building. The public is encouraged to report code violations by contacting us at the above address or 983-1454.

Join us in our dedication to fight the blight in America's Sweetest Town.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- For information regarding any of our programs, please call the library at (863) 983-1493 and remember to visit www.hendrylibraries.org. Your library truly has a lot to offer.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov and sign up under Constant Contact. You will automatically be put on the golf course e-mail.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Golf lessons are available, contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Fairways, Tees and Tee Banks were fertilized this week.
- Fairways were sprayed for weeds Thursday, March 31, 2016.
- Saturday, April 2, 2016, the Presbyterian Nicaragua Medical Mission Golf Tournament had 60 players and raised \$11,000 for Medical Mission.
- Our Annual Spring Horse Race is scheduled for April 8, 2016.
- Full Swing Ladies Golf Clinic is scheduled for April 9, 2016 from 4pm-5pm
- Moore Haven Terrier Boosters Golf Tournament is scheduled for April 16, 2016. The golf course will closed that day until 2:00pm for regular play.
- A Glow Ball Golf Tournament is scheduled for April 22, 2016. You can sign-up by calling 863-983-1448.
- Clewiston First Tee Junior Golf Clinic is scheduled for April 23, 2016. Full swing is our lesson and **Honesty** is our life skill. The clinic is from 4pm-5pm.
- Summer memberships will be available starting April 15, 2016. Call golf shop for more information.
- Congratulations!! Pat Moreau. Hole-In-One #9, it was his first.

- **Responsibilities we have as golfers when we play golf:** 1) Replacing or sanding our divots; 2) Raking sand traps after we exit them; 3) Repairing our pitch marks on the green; 4) Keeping our golf carts behind the white lines; and 5) Letting faster players through.

Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:

- Baseball and Softball teams are practicing all over town. Please be aware of the kids...Please SHARE!
- A team representing Hendry-Clewiston Recreation participated in the 12th Annual Anquan Boldin Q-Fest Basketball Tournament in Pahokee this week and did extremely well! They will also attend the Celebrity basketball game Friday night. Thank you to Clewiston Police for the use of their Explorer van for transportation.
- Negotiations are continuing to host a 2017 Spring Break Baseball Tournament next year at Sugarland Sports Complex with 8 teams (JV and Varsity) from around the area and the City of Clewiston will be hosting the TC Williams High School (Remember the Titans) teams from Alexandria, Virginia during the tournament week. Staff is currently working with VHSA/ACPSD and FHSAA regarding eligibility and criteria.
- Sugarland Sports Complex game fields were treated with a pre-emergent weed killer and fertilizer this week. Plans are being made to aerate, sprig plant, fertilize and scalp all the game fields this summer.
- Ballfield crew will install "NEW" soccer nets at Trinidad Park this week.
- Ballfield crew will begin staging goals and nets for the COPA UNIVISION Soccer Tournament beginning April 16th at Sugarland Sports Complex.
- Clewiston Baseball & Softball continues to play at Sugarland Sports Complex averaging 5 games a night throughout the week. Come out and watch "America's Sweetest Town's" finest play America's favorite game!
- Staff continues working to develop budgets, staffing patterns and schedules for summer activities.
- Staff will begin working on C.S. Mott Pool this weekend preparing it for HCHD/DEP inspections and summer activities.
- MAKE-A-WISH Foundation "Wish Walk" on April 9th at the Sugar Festival Field beginning at 7:30Am. For more information go to www.walkforwishesfl.net
- CHS Baseball vs. Glades Central on April 8th (Varsity @ 7pm) on Stalls Field (Field #1) at Sugarland Sports Complex... GO TIGERS!
- CHS Softball District Tournament on April 12th & 14th in LaBelle. GOOD LUCK LADY TIGERS!
- UPCOMING Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
 - Apr. 8th - Miss Princess of the Glades Pageant practice 5:30-8:30pm John Boy Auditorium
 - Apr. 9th - Miss Princess of the Glades Pageant 6-10pm John Boy Auditorium
 - Apr. 9th – Walk For Wishes 7:30am-Noon Sugar Festival Field
 - Apr. 10th – Birthday Party 1-6pm Splash Pad Pavilion
 - Apr. 12th - USSC Safety Training 7am-5pm John Boy Auditorium

- Apr. 12th – Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Board Meeting 3pm Clewiston Commission Chambers
- Apr. 14th – Clewiston Cougar Quarter Auction 6-10pm John Boy Auditorium
- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed dodgeball league, Summer co-ed softball league, or Summer K-5th AAU Track and Field, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Please visit www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: Ground ULV treatments were performed on Tuesday and Saturday nights this week. Residents are reminded again about mosquito borne viruses and the need to take personal responsibility for the safety of yourself and small children. ZIKA was confirmed in Palm Beach County. Easiest way to avoid mosquito bites is: (1) Stay indoors during “peak activity times” (2) If you must be outside, wear light long sleeves and long pants, shoes and socks. (3) Spray exposed skin with a repellent. A meeting was held this week with the contractor to plan this year’s attack.
- Street Maintenance: (1) The “pothole patrol” ran last Thursday as well as the shoulder repair crew. (2) 12 Oak trees donated by US Sugar were planted at the Golf Course, in the Sweetest Town Playground, and in the Sports Complex. (3) 100 feet of 200 feet of sidewalk marked for repair has been pulled and is being formed to pour. These areas seem to be traffic (vehicle) related damage, so it will be poured six inches deep.
- Civic Park Rebuild: The next project (Large Boulder Rock Garden) in the park has been put on “hold” until we get some other projects accomplished.
- Pasadena Drainage & Paving Project: All underground work is complete. City staff replaced the water line under the road while everything was open. Paving, driveway aprons and sidewalks are next. Five driveway aprons are scheduled to be poured this week. Residents are responding to the work the City is doing on this street and hiring the contractor to pour new parking pads on their property.
- Paving Project: We have started putting together this year’s paving project. The engineer has the first draft from the director.
- Building Maintenance: The contractor is scheduled to start painting the Fire House on Monday.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officer Hodge and Executive Assistant Melanson attended Clewiston Middle School’s Career Day. The pair met with students interested in Law Enforcement Careers and had a great time interacting with everyone.
- Lt Angell and Lt Rowan spoke Wednesday at the First Baptist Church’s XYZ Meeting. The large group of “mature residents” meets monthly to eat and enjoy speakers on various topics. Good food and information was exchanged by all.
- A traffic stop this week resulted in the arrest of three people. Two front seat adults were charged with felony drug possession. A seventeen year old male in the back seat was charged with possession of a concealed firearm.

- Officers responding to a disturbance on Sugarland Circle this week encountered a woman who had been attacked by her 26 year old son. The man was arrested for Domestic Violence and transported to Hendry County Jail.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1070 Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 527 Complaints Investigated
 - 52 Traffic Citations Issued
 - 33 Arrests Made
 - 61 Merchant Escorts
 - 22 Alarms Responded To
 - 12 City Ordinance Violations Issued
 - 11 Traffic Accidents Investigated

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION! Visit our office today.
- ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE on our web site at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware:

- 1) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.
- 2) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.
- 3) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.

If you feel you have been a victim of this scam please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.